

## **LaRue Pine Hills Appreciation Day**

Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm

## Free Guided Walk along the Snake Road.

The guided walk will be led by Scott Ballard, Natural Heritage Biologist with IDNR, and Shannan Sharp, Botanist with the Shawnee National Forest.

The walk will be approximately 2 to 4 miles (round trip) into one of the most ecologically diverse research natural areas in the country. Learn about the variety

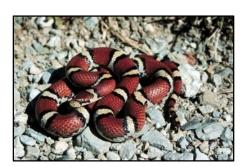


Photo Credit: Scott Ballard, IDNR

of reptiles and amphibians that inhabit the area and the unique measures taken to protect these extraordinary animals during their biannual migration across the Snake Road.

Discover springtime wildflowers and other plants found in LaRue Pine Hills and learn about what non-native invasive species are threatening many of our natural ecosystems today.

Tour starts at Winters Pond Parking (Located on the North End of the Snake Road)

- This is a free program for all ages; it will take place rain or shine.
- Come dressed for the weather.
- Wear comfortable shoes, bring water, camera and other comfort items.



Sponsored in partnership with Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources



Bluebells

USFS photo



## **Directions to LaRue Pine Hills - Winter's Pond**

<u>From Jonesboro</u>: take Highway 146 west 8 miles to Highway 3, then north 8 miles on Hwy 3 to Muddy Levee Road and turn right. Then east 3 miles to LaRue Road where the road T's. Here, turn right to Winters Pond parking area and the 'Snake Road'. At this point you are at the north end of the RNA.

<u>From Murphysboro</u>: Take Highway 149 west 7 miles to Highway 3; then south 14 miles on Hwy 3 to Muddy Levee Road. Then east 3 miles to LaRue Road where the road T's. Here, turn right to Winters Pond parking area and the 'Snake Road'. At this point you are at the north end of the RNA.

